

REMARKS

In the Office Action, a restriction was made requiring election of one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 9-16, allegedly drawn to a method for cutting and fastening a section of tissue; and
- II. Claims 17-28, allegedly drawn to a fastening and cutting attachment and a fastening and cutting device.

Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, the invention designated by the examiner as Invention II, i.e., claims 17-28. Thus, Applicants have withdrawn herein without prejudice claims 9-16.

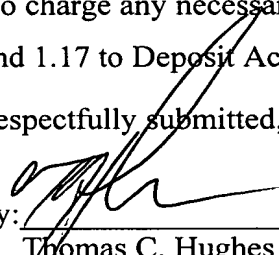
An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

FEES

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 9, 2005

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